

# INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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the Formation of a National Army

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In May 1952, the workload of the State Planning Commission was extremely heavy because of preparations for the formation of a National Army, which was officially announced on 1 May 1952. Preparations are under way for the production of special vehicles, light weapons and ammunition for the Army and ships for the Navy. The stockpiling policy and its critical effect on the supply of consumer goods were thoroughly discussed. The possibility of importing armaments from the U.S.S.R. played a major part in these plans. A small delegation of the Ministry for Foreign Trade will allegedly go to Moscow in the next few months in order to conclude contracts for the importation of such material.<sup>1</sup>

1. Comment. [redacted] the Duero fuer Wirt- 25X1  
schaftsfragen (Office for Economic Questions) of the Office of the Minister Pres-  
ident at 1-5 Schnellerstrasse in Berlin-Moedenschoeneweide has the function of  
an Arms-and-Armament Ministry. A branch agency of the Duero fuer Wirtschaftsfragen is  
said to be located on Malepastrasse in Berlin-Oberschoeneweide.

**CLASSIFICATION**

**SECRET**

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